

Nick Danis

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postal Rutgers University

Department of Linguistics

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New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Research Interests

Phonology, Optimality Theory, African languages, formal typologies

Education

Current Rutgers University (expected 2017)

Ph.D. in Linguistics

Committee: Akin Akinlabi (chair), Paul de Lacy, Bruce Tesar, Alan Prince

2011 Boston University

M.A. in Applied Linguistics

Master's Project: *The Phonological Word in Medumba*

Supervisors: Jonathan Barnes, Catherine O'Connor

2008 Boston University

B.A. in Linguistics, *cum laude*

B.S. in Film and Television, *cum laude*

Publications/Papers

In prep Danis, Nick. Major place harmony in ABC and the (reduced) role of representation: Evidence from Ngbaka. AMP 2016 Proceedings.

In prep Danis, Nick and Bruce Tesar. Chain shifts and output-driven preserving faithfulness.

Submitted Danis, Nick. Markedness and complex segments: Evidence from simplification processes. Proceedings of the 8th World Congress of African Linguistics.

2014 Danis, Nick. Deriving interactions of complex stops. Ms., Rutgers University. Second Qualifying Paper. Committee: Alan Prince (chair), Akin Akinlabi, Bruce Tesar. ROA-1220.

2013 Danis, Nick. Theta compatibility and manner of motion resultatives. Ms., Rutgers University. First Qualifying Paper. Committee: Jane Grimshaw (chair), Mark Baker, Bruce Tesar.

2012 Danis, Nick, Jonathan Barnes, and Catherine O'Connor. Downstep and contour formation in Medumba: A prosodic account. In Michael R. Marlo, Nikki B. Adams, Christopher R. Green, Michelle Morrison, and Tristan M. Purvis (eds.), *Selected Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, 23–31. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. www.lingref.com, document #2755.

2011 Danis, Nick, Kate Mesh, and Hyunsuk Sung (eds.). Proceedings of the 35th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development. Cambridge, MA: Cascadilla Press.

- 2011** Danis, Nick. *The Phonological Word in Medumba*. Ms., Boston University. Master's project. Advisors: Catherine O'Connor, Jonathan Barnes.

Presentations

- 2016** Danis, Nick. Major place harmony in ABC and the (reduced) role of representation: evidence from Ngbaka. Annual Meeting on Phonology 2016. USC, October 21–23, 2016.
- 2016** Danis, Nick. Cross-category vowel-consonant interactions in Aghem and Vietnamese. University of Chicago Phonology Group, May 13, 2016.
- 2015** Danis, Nick. Markedness and complex segments: Evidence from simplification processes. 8th World Congress of African Linguistics. Kyoto University, Japan. August 21, 2015.
- 2015** Danis, Nick. A typology of complex segments: Multiple place interactions on a scale. Workshop on Formal Typologies. Rutgers University, May 30, 2015.
- 2015** Danis, Nick. Complex segments made simple: Markedness and doubly-articulated stops. Annual Conference on African Linguistics 46. University of Oregon, March 26–29, 2015.
- 2011** Danis, Nick, Jonathan Barnes and Catherine O'Connor. Downstep and contour formation in Medumba. The 42nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics. University of Maryland, June 10–12, 2011.

Teaching

Instructor

- 2017** *Spring*
Instructor, 01:615:190 Linguistic Perspectives on Language
Topic: Invented Languages. Two sections.
- 2016** *Fall*
Instructor, 01:615:190 Linguistic Perspectives on Language
Topic: Invented Languages. Two sections.
- Spring*
Instructor, 01:615:190 Linguistic Perspectives on Language
Topic: Invented Languages. Designed an original course on the linguistic structure of invented languages and the motivations for their creation. Online course.
- 2015** *Summer*
Instructor, 01:615:201 Introduction to Linguistic Theory. Rutgers University.
- 2014** *Spring*
Instructor, 01:615:201 Introduction to Linguistic Theory. Rutgers University.
- 2013** *Fall*
Teaching Assistant, 01:615:201 Introduction to Linguistic Theory. Led weekly section in conjunction with lecture led by Veneeta Dayal. Rutgers University.

Assistance

- 2015 Grader, 01:615:315 Phonology. Instructor: Akin Akinlabi. Rutgers University.
- 2013–2015 Tutor. Linguistics walk-in tutor for undergraduate students. Kreeger Learning Center, Rutgers University.
- 2011 Grader, CAS LX 502 Semantics. Instructors: Peter Alrenga and Paul Hagstrom. Boston University.
- 2010 Grader, CAS LX 510 Phonetics. Instructor: Sara Mackenzie. Boston University.
- 2010 Grader/Teaching Assistant, CAS LX 501 Linguistic Field Methods. Medumba (Niger Congo, Cameroon), Catherine O'Connor. Boston University.

Research Assistance

- 2012 Data Entry, African Anaphora Project. Ken Safir. Rutgers University.
- 2010 Research Assistant, NSF Grant BCS 1026724 Medumba [BYV] Linguistic Fieldwork and Collaborative Language Development (PI: M.C. O'Connor). Involved attending the 3L Summer School on Language Documentation in Leiden, Netherlands, and then traveling to Cameroon for one month of intensive fieldwork.
- 2009 Research Assistant. Catherine O'Connor. Boston University.
- 2009 Research Assistant. Peter Alrenga. Boston University.

Field Experience

- 2010 Medumba (Grassfields Bantu, Cameroon): Conducted fieldwork in Yaoundé, Bangangté, and local surrounding villages. Funded by NSF Grant BCS 1026724.

Service

- 2015 Rutgers Optimality Reading Group. Co-organizer. (“RORGanizer.”)
- 2014 Linguistics Graduate Student Association. President. Rutgers University.
- 2013 Linguistics Graduate Student Association. Vice President. Rutgers University.
- 2012 Colloquium Organizer. Co-organized Linguistics colloquium events for the 2012–2013 academic year. Rutgers University.
- 2011 LSA Annual Meeting. Student Volunteer. Assisted with various duties, mainly check-in.
- 2010 Boston University Conference on Language Development 35 Co-organizer and Technology Chair. Involved with every stage of conference planning, facilitated migration to new conference website, collected abstracts, prepared abstracts for reviewers, oversaw Review, Abstract, and Handbook chairs in their duties.
- 2009 BUCLD 34 Abstracts Chair and Handbook Chair. Collected and managed submitted abstracts, created conference handbook.

Other Education

Summer Programs

- 2010** 3L Summer School on Language Documentation and Description
Leiden, Netherlands
- 2010** Medumba Intensive Literacy Course
Comité de Langue pour l'Etude et la Production des Œuvres Bamiléké-Medumba (CEPOM)
Bangangté, Cameroon
- 2009** LSA Summer Institute
University of California, Berkeley

Awards

- 2016** Mellon Summer Study Grant
- 2014** Excellence Fellowship for doctoral study in Linguistics
Rutgers University
- 2014** Mellon Summer Study Grant
- 2012** Excellence Fellowship for doctoral study in Linguistics
Rutgers University
- 2011** Excellence Fellowship for doctoral study in Linguistics
Rutgers University

Skills

Language

English (native); Italian (intermediate to advanced); Medumba ([byv], Cameroon) (research and field knowledge); French, German (academic reading); ASL (basic)

Technical

Praat, OTWorkplace, VBA, Python, L^AT_EX